

It's Smart To Be Gallery Wise!

THE WILLIAM ROCKHILL NELSON GALLERY OF ART

AND ATKINS MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

NEWS FLASHES

April 21 - May 3, 1935

## FRENCH LOAN EXHIBITION

**LAST CALL:** Only eight days remain to see the great show of one hundred years of French Painting. The exhibition must close at 6:00 P.M. on Sunday, April 28th. All the masterpieces by Delacroix, Courbet, Daumier, Manet, Renoir, Degas, Van Gogh, Gauguin, Cézanne, and the Impressionists must then be returned to their generous owners. This is the last call to see the greatest group of nineteenth century painting ever gathered together in the Southwest. Even if you have seen it, you will want to make several more visits before the curtain falls on Sunday, April 28th.

The Street Musicians: Since our last news flash, several important paintings have been added to the exhibition. From the Robert Wood Bliss Collection of Washington, comes one of the finest Daumiers in the world, "The Street Musicians". Later than our own example, three musicians are silhouetted against a luminous, white wall, and the whole picture is flooded with that intangible genius which was Daumier's special characteristic.

The Postmaster Roulin: The "rara avis" of the art world today is a portrait by the great Expressionist, Van Gogh. It was a great thrill, then, to be able to add to our exhibition a portrait of none other than the Postman Roulin - Lent by M. Knoedler and Company. He was the only friend Van Gogh had in his two year's stay in Arles, and his ability to consume drinks at the local cafe and to condemn the inefficiencies of the French Government in no uncertain terms, fascinated our Vincent. He found in him a personification of Socrates, with his leonine head and his flowing beard, his ruddy face and massive, gnarled hands. Roulin even offered to sit for his portrait, and Van Gogh was so grateful that he made several versions, one, a three-quarter length, is in the Paine Collection of Boston. The one now included in our show was done at this time, and the head was done in one sitting. He has shown the village postman in his Prussian blue uniform with its brass buttons, wearing the cap on which POSTES is flaunted in gold braid. Roulin refused to accept money for posing, but would accept meals and drinks, and Van Gogh wrote his brother Theo that his voracious appetite had eaten him out of house and home. It would have been much cheaper, he decided, to have paid him regular model fees.

Popular Favorite: His mistress, art, demanded of Van Gogh a greater price than any other artist has ever paid. Were alive today, he would be gratified to learn that his superb masterpiece, The Olive Grove, from our own collection, is leading in the popularity vote being held in connection with the loan exhibition. The second place is held at present by the appealing Portrait of Lina Campineanu by Manet, with the Courbet Source, lent by the Metropolitan, a runner-up. Fourth place is held by Rousseau's delightful Rendezvous in the Forest, and Roulin polled many votes in the one week he has been on display.

DON'T MISS

THE FRENCH EXHIBITION



HEAD OF SAINT GEORGE: The Masterpiece of the Week for April 21st will be a recently acquired Gothic limestone head of St. George. Coming from the cathedral town of Caen, it may have originally been in St. Pierre, the great church of the fourteenth century. It shows an attractive and appealing representation of the young saint who rescued Cleodolinda from the dragon.

MR. PARSON'S VISIT: Harold Woodbury Parsons will arrive Monday to spend ten days at the Gallery. It is with great pleasure that we announce a lecture by him in the Auditorium Wednesday evening at 8:00 P.M., April 24th. His subject will be "Masterpieces of Painting in American Collections".

NELSON GALLERY ON THE AIR: Through the courtesy of Station W9XBY, the broadcasting station of First National Television, the Nelson Gallery is on the air for ten minutes each Saturday afternoon between four and four-thirty. The talk, which is given by a member of the Gallery staff, is a feature of "Janet's Club Calendar". News of Gallery activities and interesting bits about the collection will be featured. Listen, too, for daily announcements of Gallery lectures at this same hour each day.

PRE-KHMER BUDDHA: One of the finest examples of early Cambodian or Pre-Khmer sculpture in the world has recently been acquired and will be featured as the Masterpiece of the Week for April 28th. The history of this fascinating culture which thrived in Indo-China and then disappeared entirely has never been fully told. Only its sculpture remains, and our Buddha is the most beautiful from its early period.

OLD MAN PARR: It is rare when the subject of a painting entirely overshadows the artist, yet this seems to be the case with our fine portrait of Old Parr by Rubens. The colorful life of this Englishman who is reported to have lived 153 years, will be the subject of Mr. Gardner's lecture on Wednesday Evening, May 1st.

THE WOODCUT SOCIETY: Due to the cooperation of its director, Mr. Alfred Fowler, the Third Annual Exhibition of the Woodcut Society is inaugurating its tour of the United States in our Print Galleries. This year's group is especially fine and has representations from America, Europe, Japan, and Australia. There are outstanding works by Lionel Lindsay, Thomas W. Nason, C. F. Tunnicliffe, Frau Norbertine von Bressleru-Roth, and Y. Urushibara. It will remain on exhibition until Mar 15th.

GALLERY HOST TO THE BLIND: The Gallery was host on Saturday, April 13th, to a group of fourteen Camp Fire Girls from the Kansas State School for the Blind, and by the success of the visit sees the possibility of increasing its usefulness to the surrounding territory by special tours for the blind. The highly developed sense of touch of the young girls enabled them to appreciate particularly the sculpture and the furniture, and their comments to each other on what they "saw" revealed their acuteness and sensitivity to the beauty of the works of art.

Special provisions were made to allow them to touch and feel the less fragile pieces, and their cries of delight showed their appreciation of even the most intricate or subtle beauties of sculpture or cabinet work.

PUBLIC SCHOOL DEMONSTRATION TOURS: The fifth and last of the series of demonstrations and guide tours for the sixth grade public school children has just begun. It includes the making of prints and a resumé of the earlier tours, stressing the sculpture and bronze decoration of the building.

MARIONNETTE PLAY AND EXHIBITION OF CRAFTS: The children who have attended the Saturday morning Gallery Appreciation and Craft Classes are presenting an exhibition of the work accomplished during the winter on Saturday morning, April 27th. A special feature will be a marionnette play, prepared and presented by the children, in the Auditorium at ten o'clock. The play, which was written by Miss Lindsay Hughes of the Gallery staff, is "Phaeton and Apollo", based on the Flemish tapestries in Kirkwood Hall. Don't miss seeing Phaeton driving the chariot of the Sun and the unfortunate events of that wild ride! The making of the marionnettes and the direction of the play have been in charge of Miss Brenda Groesbeck, Miss Hazel Hedges and Mr. Jerry Manning.



RECENT ACQUISITIONS: A number of our recent acquisitions which have been featured as masterpieces have been installed in their respective galleries. The French Primitive is in Room I, the Alonso Cano St. Lawrence is in Room VI, and the superb Greek Boxers in the Classical Section.

LECTURE SCHEDULE

|                 |          |                           |               |
|-----------------|----------|---------------------------|---------------|
| Gallery tours - | April 23 | - Masterpiece of the Week | - Mr. Gardner |
| April 23 thru   | " 24     | - Prints                  | - Mr. Freeman |
| May 3 at 3 p.m. | " 25     | - The Loan Exhibition     | - Mr. Gardner |
| No charge to    | " 26     | - Dutch, Flemish and      | - Mr. Beam    |
| join them.      |          | English Painting          |               |

|          |                                    |                |
|----------|------------------------------------|----------------|
| April 30 | - Masterpiece of the Week          | - Miss Hughes  |
| May 1    | - Chinese and Japanese Collections | - Mr. Wittmann |
| " 2      | - The Near East                    | - Miss Hughes  |
| " 3      | - European Sculpture               | - Mr. Freeman  |

|  |          |   |
|--|----------|---|
| Evening lectures -   | April 24 | - Masterpieces of Painting in American Collections - Mr. Harold Woodbury Parsons. |
| 8 p.m. in the Auditorium. No charge other than admission to the Gallery. | May 1    | - Peter Paul Rubens and "Old Parr" - Mr. Paul Gardner.                            |